

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the nonfinal Office Action of February 2, 2006.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Response, claims 1 and 4-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6, and 7 have been amended. Claims 2-3 and 11-25 are canceled. The prior art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims. Applicants believe that no new matter has been added by the amendments and that a new search is not necessary.

CLAIMS

Claim Rejections

Claim 1

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as purportedly being anticipated independently by Luther et al. (U.S. Patent 6,045,734). Amended claim 1 reads as follows:

1. A method of producing a three-dimensional object, comprising the step of:
disposing at least one layer of a first material onto a first area in an iterative manner using at least one *ink-jet printhead*, wherein the first material is selected from a build material and a contrast enhancing material;
disposing at least one layer of a second material and the first material onto the first area using at least one *ink-jet printhead*, wherein the second material is selected from a build material and a contrast enhancing material, wherein the second material being disposed onto a designated area, wherein the first material being disposed onto a second area, wherein the second area and the designated area are different areas of the first area, wherein the first material and the second material are not the same material;
forming the identifiable structure from at least one layer of the second material;
disposing at least one layer of a second material and the first material onto the first area using at least one *ink-jet printhead*; and

forming an identifiable structure from the second material within the three-dimensional object, wherein the identifiable structure within the three-dimensional object can be detected using a non-invasive dimensional imaging device.

(Emphasis added). Applicants traverse each of the §102 rejections in the Office Action and submit that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102 in view of Luther should be withdrawn because Luther does not disclose, teach, or suggest each and every feature of claim 1 above. In this regard, Luther does not disclose, teach, or suggest “disposing at least one layer of a first material...using at least one ink-jet printhead... disposing at least one layer of a second material ... using at least one ink-jet printhead... disposing at least one layer of a second material ... using at least one ink-jet printhead...” as recited in claim 1. Luther does not teach, disclose, or suggest disposing a material using an ink-jet printhead. In particular, Luther states that “the metal wire 32 is machine wound about the first layer of material” (Col. 6, lines 57-58). Machine winding metal wire and disposing a material using an ink-jet printhead are very different processes. Thus, Luther does not disclose, teach, or suggest, at least the limitations highlighted above in claim 1, and therefore, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Claims 4-10

Applicants traverse each of the §102 rejections in the Office Action. Applicants respectfully submit that pending dependent claims 4-10 include every feature of independent claim 1 and that Luther fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the features of claim 1 highlighted hereinabove. Thus, pending dependent claims 4-10 are also allowable over the prior art of record. In re Fine, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

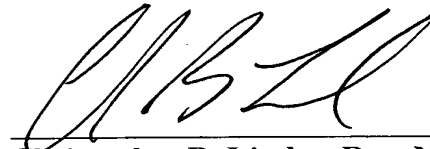
Conclusion

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested.

In addition, any other statements in the Office Action that are not explicitly addressed herein are not intended to be admitted. In addition, any and all findings of inherency are traversed as not having been shown to be necessarily present. Furthermore, any and all findings of well-known art and official notice, or statements interpreted similarly, should not be considered well known since the Office Action does not include specific factual findings predicated on sound technical and scientific reasoning to support such conclusions.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CBL', is written over a horizontal line.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the below listed items are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment
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on 4/28/06.

Sara Rogers
Sara A. Rogers

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Confirmation No.: 7814

Gregory J. May

Group Art Unit: 1732

Serial No.: 10/820,409

Examiner: Jeffrey Michael Wollschlager

Filed: April 8, 2004

Docket No. HP: 200312860-1

TKHR: 050834-1490

For: Identifiable Structures and Systems and Methods for Forming the Same in a Solid Freeform Fabrication System

The following is a list of documents enclosed:

Return Postcard
Amendment
Amendment Transmittal Sheet